Mr. C J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* There is already a Proclamation and the levy will be made according to the provisions of the Act.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know, Sir, whether with the introduction of this tax in British India the then prevailing prices of arecanut in the State were reduced to the extent of the tax that was collected there.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Government have seen reports to that effect in the papers and certain representations have also been received.

Mr. President: I think the Hon'ble Member is not getting very much further in this matter. The answers given by the Government are to the effect that all these points which have been raised by the Hon'ble Member for Vadakkancheri and other Hon'ble Members have been brought to the notice of the Government and that they are being enquired into and I suggest that the Hon'ble Members must content themselves for the moment with that information.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* With the hope that action will soon follow.

Mr. C. V. Iyyn *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Government are aware that there is much difficulty to get waggons?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know whether the Government have taken any steps?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The Government are trying their best to secure as many waggons as possible.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know the reasons for this expeditious Proclamation?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* If we do not levy this tax here the moment arecanut is exported, tax will be levied on it in British India and we will be losing that tax. In British India they have already brought it into force and any commodity exported since 1st April will be taxed in British India.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I am asking whether there was any financial or other reasons weighing with the Government to impose this tax.

Mr. President: Order, order. The Hon'ble Joint Secretary has answered that question. The reason for the hurry was this. The duty was imposed in British India. The great bulk of arecanut grown in this State is exported to British India and it is subjected to this tax the moment it crosses the frontiers of the State. That tax is passed on to the grower. The grower of arecanut in this State, therefore, in fact, became liable to pay the tax the moment the arecanut went into British India. In order to secure the duty on the arecanut grown in the State to the State Revenues and in order to prevent this money leaving the State it was necessary by this Proclamation to impose the duty also in this State. That is the reason why the matter had to be done urgently and there was no time to adopt the usual process in the matter of taxation and bring it before this House.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* With the permission of the Chair, may I put one or two more supplementary questions?

Mr. President: No, Sir.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Thank you, Sir.

SALE PRICE OF PADDY AND KOLE CULTIVATORS

16. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state,—

(*a*) whether they have received representations from "Kole" owners or cultivators regarding the sale price of "Kole" paddy and the cost of cultivation ;

(*b*) will they please state the main heads of demands such have made for relief to Government ;

(*c*) what, if any, are the orders Government have been pleased to make on those representations ?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):*

(a) Yes.

(*b*) In the first Memorial there were two alternative prayers, *viz.*, (1) for enhancement of the price of kole paddy or (2) for free pumping and free supply of irrigation water from the Mulloorkayal scheme. In the 2nd Memorial there is no prayer for enhancement of the price of

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paddy, but it contains several requests with alternative suggestion. A copy of the Memorial is placed on the Council Table.

(*c*) Government did not sanction the requests in the first Memorial. The second Memorial is under consideration.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Has not the work of kole cultivation begun this year?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* I think it has been started.

PADDY- ACQUISITION BY GOVERNMENT

17. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Will Government be pleased to state the principle followed in giving allowance of paddy to holders of land when paddy is acquired by Government;

Has the Food Supply Department refused the grant of permit to any usufructuary mortgagee in 1119 for the transport of paddy allowed to be kept for his own use by the paddy acquiring officers in Trichur and Mukundapuram Taluks; if so the number of such permits refused and the reasons for doing so in each case?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Sufficient paddy for Vithu (Seed) Valli, (payment for agricultural labour) customary and obligatory payments in kind and the minimum needs for domestic consumption, is allowed, care being taken to see that the incentive to cultivation is not adversely affected.

No such instance is known.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* May I know whether there were requests from usufructuray mortgagees to transport paddy from one taluk to another?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Were all of them given permits?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* In some cases it was found that the usufructuary mortgages were sham. In those cases permits were refused.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Which are the instances of that kind?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I want notice.

18. Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether representations have not been made to them about the great hardships and unnecessary consequence caused to landholders by the orders requiring the submission of returns to be made by them of the harvest crops on lands leased to tenants;

(*b*) will they please state whether they have thought fit to react to the representation?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government think that the existing form is necesssary.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* May I know whether there is a provision that both the owner of the land and the actual cultivator should send within 7 days of the harvest due information to the Government in writing.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* No.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* I would like to have the section of rule published on 3rd Thulam

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* This is the form.....

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* I want to know whether in the body of the rules as framed by the Government there is not a provision that both the landholder as well as the tenant should send such returns within 7 days of the harvest.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The question was whether the landholders were not required to give the quantity of paddy. I only want to point out that there is no such rule.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Both the landholders as well as the actual cultivators, *i.e.*, the tenants should submit such a return within 7 days of the harvest.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* There are two kinds of forms for the submission of the returns. Form A is the form for the land-owners and B is the Form for those owners who lease out their lands. The return must be submitted. But the actual yield need not be shown. Persons who are actual cultivators have to show the pattam due. In the case of landholders they need not show the yield in the return. So, the difficulty apprehended by the Hon'ble Member may not arise.

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